

***Hackelia cinerea* (Piper) Johnst.**
gray stickseed
Boraginaceae (Borage Family)

Status: State Sensitive
Rank: G4?S1

General Description: Adapted from Hitchcock et al. (1959): Perennial, 8 to 32 inches tall. Stems several or sometimes solitary, strigose and generally also more or less spreading-bristly. Leaves are hirsute or hispid-hirsute with spreading or subappressed hairs, and often strigose or strigose-sericeous especially beneath, the basal ones well-developed and commonly persistent, petiolate, oblanceolate or narrowly elliptic, 2 to 8 inches long and 1/8 to 2/3 inch wide, the cauline ones mostly sessile and progressively smaller, lanceolate to linear or linear-oblong. Corolla is white with a yellow eye, the limb 1/4 to 1/2 inch wide, the fornicies evidently papillate-hairy. Marginal prickles of the nutlet are united for about 1/3 to 1/2 their length to form an evident cupulate border. Intramarginal prickles are small.

Identification Tips: The taxon can be readily distinguished from other Northwest members of the genus by the uniformly sericeous condition on the upper surface of the leaves, and the shape, texture, and surface of the fornicies (Gentry and Carr 1976). There is overlap with *Hackelia diffusa* var. *arida* and *H. ciliata* in most other characters. A technical key is recommended for positive identification.

Phenology: Flowers from mid-May through July.

Range: Occurs in northwestern Montana, north and central Idaho to Spokane County, Washington. The species has also been found in Lincoln and Stevens counties in Washington. All known occurrences are along the Spokane River or its tributaries. All sites are within the Columbia Basin physiographic province.

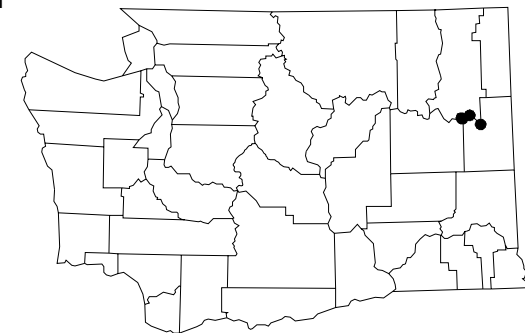
Habitat: This species occurs in open or sparsely forested areas, especially on cliffs or talus, or other exposed rock, often in mossy cracks. Associated species include *Eupatorium occidentale*, *Physocarpus malvaceus*, *Philadelphus lewisii*, *Amelanchier alnifolia*, *Heuchera cylindrica*, *Eriogonum compositum*, *E. niveum*, *Penstemon fruticosus*, *P. richardsonii*, and *Woodsia oregana*. Elevation ranges from 1600 to 1900 feet (WA).

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Known distribution of
Hackelia cinerea in
Washington



● Current (1980+)
○ Historic (older than 1980)

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Ecology: A majority of *Hackelia* species are restricted to sites of low plant density and so are probably poor competitors. Invasive non-native species could outcompete *Hackelia cinerea* within its habitat. Two such species known from sites for this taxon are *Centaurea diffusa* and *Linaria dalmatica*.

State Status Comments: This taxon is a peripheral in Washington. There are very few known extant occurrences.

Inventory Needs: Additional inventory is needed along the interface of the Columbia Basin and Okanogan Highlands physiographic provinces.

Threats and Management Concerns: Known populations are threatened by recreational use and flooding as a result of reservoir management. Timber harvest may also be a potential localized threat to the taxon.

References:

Gentry, J.L. and R.L. Carr. 1976. A revision of the genus *Hackelia* (Boraginaceae) in North America, north of Mexico. Mem. N.Y. Bot. Gard. 26: 121-227.

Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1959. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 4: Ericaceae Through Campanulaceae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 510 pp.

